

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL RELATING TO UNITED STATES

SENATORS

2011 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Howard A. Stephenson

House Sponsor: Ken Ivory

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill addresses issues related to the Seventeenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and permits the Legislature to provide counsel to United States senators representing Utah and to receive certain reports from them.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ allows the Legislature to provide counsel to a United States senator elected from Utah;
- ▶ allows the Legislature to request that United States senators elected from Utah report to the Legislature on certain issues determined by the Legislature;
- ▶ provides that any counsel or requests for reports be made by:
 - a joint resolution of the Legislature; or
 - a written statement called "The Legislature's Counsel to United States Senators Representing Utah" that contains the signatures of a majority of the members of the House and a majority of the members of the Senate; and
- ▶ directs the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to maintain a record of all resolutions, statements, and responses issued under this section.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

36-27-101, Utah Code Annotated 1953

36-27-102, Utah Code Annotated 1953

36-27-103, Utah Code Annotated 1953

36-27-104, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **36-27-101** is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 27. LEGISLATURE'S COUNSEL TO UNITED STATES SENATORS

36-27-101. Title.

This chapter is known as "Legislature's Counsel to United States Senators."

Section 2. Section **36-27-102** is enacted to read:

36-27-102. Legislative counsel to United States Senators.

(1) The Legislature may provide counsel to United States senators representing Utah.

(2) The Legislature may request that United States senators representing Utah provide a single response or periodic reports to the Legislature on:

(a) each senator's progress with or response to the counsel given under Subsection (1);

or

(b) other issues as determined by the Legislature.

Section 3. Section **36-27-103** is enacted to read:

36-27-103. Resolution of the Legislature -- Written statement.

(1) The Legislature may provide any counsel or reporting requests under Section 36-27-102 by:

(a) passing a joint resolution of the Legislature; or

(b) issuing a written statement that contains the signatures of a majority of the members of the House and a majority of the members of the Senate.

(2) A written statement under Subsection (1)(b) shall be referred to as "The

58 Legislature's Counsel to United States Senators Representing Utah."

59 Section 4. Section **36-27-104** is enacted to read:

60 **36-27-104. Issuance of resolution or written statement -- Reporting requirements.**

61 (1) (a) Any resolution or written statement that is issued under this chapter shall be sent
62 to each United States senator representing Utah.

63 (b) A copy of any resolution or written statement that is issued under this chapter shall
64 be sent to each representative from the state serving in Congress.

65 (2) Each resolution or written statement issued under this chapter shall specify that a
66 United States senator shall provide the following to the Office of Legislative Research and
67 General Counsel when submitting a report in response to a resolution or written statement:

68 (a) prior notice of any verbal response or report; or

69 (b) a copy of any written response or report.

70 (3) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall maintain a record of:

71 (a) any resolution or written statement issued under this chapter; and

72 (b) each response and report provided to the Legislature by a United States senator in
73 response to a resolution or written statement issued under this chapter.